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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Region II Office

March 7, 1977

Solid Waste Problems at Scientific Chemical Processing, Inc.,
Carlstadt, N.J.

Patrick J. Harvey, P.E., Chief
Water Facilities Branch

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Solid Waste Branch
Environmental Programs Division

NO 0003212

On February 13, 1977 Mr. Jonathan Josephs of the Water Facilities Branch and Mr. Greg Isbrecht of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection inspected the Scientific Chemical Processing, Inc. facility at 216 Paterson Plank Road, Carlstadt, N.J. to determine whether the company is in compliance with its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit to discharge wastewater to Peach Island Creek. The company is a waste acceptance firm which receives waste solvents and chemicals and disposes of them by recovering by-products, incineration, discharge to a municipal sewage treatment plant or by other means. Formerly the company also disposed of wastes at Kim-Buc landfill in Edison, N.J. until the landfill was closed by the State.

The inspectors observed that large volumes of waste materials are stored in drums on the plant grounds. According to the plant manager, the company has no plans for disposal of some of these materials which can no longer be landfilled. For the present these wastes are accumulated at the plant until a suitable disposal method becomes available. Some spillage of both liquid and solid wastes was observed on the plant grounds. However, the grounds were considerably cleaner than observed during a previous inspection conducted in 1975. The improved appearance of the grounds is due to the resurfacing of the property with clean fill since the previous inspection. It is very possible that past spillage is merely covered over by the new surface but still may present a problem. The property is graded in such a way that the storm drainage from the grounds probably does not flow into Peach Island Creek but would collect in low lying areas and percolate into the soil. Since there is no apparent discharge of contaminated storm drainage to a waterway, the problem of waste spillage on the property does not fall under the jurisdiction of the NPDES program.

I am bringing this matter to your attention so that you can determine whether any actions under the solid waste regulations are appropriate to deal with the spillage of wastes on the plant grounds and the more important question of the ultimate method of disposal for these materials. If you would like any additional information regarding this matter please contact Mr. Jonathan Josephs of my staff at extension 2936.

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